

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 21 of page 4 as follows:

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A thin film substrate according to the present invention includes a flexible layer of any material used in forming packaging film laminate. An outer layer of a packaging laminate according to the present invention is characterized by being impermeable. "Impermeable" as used herein is defined to mean having a vapor transmission rate at 70°F of less than 0.80 grams per 100 square inches per 24 hours. An outer layer substrate according to the present invention includes polyvinylidene chloride (PVDC) coated polyester, PVDC coated polypropylene, aluminum coated polyethylene terephthalate (PET), ~~aluminum-coated~~ polyethylene (PE), ~~aluminum-coated~~ oriented polypropylene (OPP), ~~aluminum-coated~~ nylon, aluminum oxide coated PET, aluminum oxide coated polyester, ~~aluminum-oxide-coated~~ OPP, acrylic coated polypropylene and ~~acrylic-coated~~ PET, layers thereof, coatings thereof, and combinations thereof. Preferably, the outer layer has a thickness of between 0.05 and 2 mils. More preferably, the adhesive material is applied to a surface of the outer layer to form a laminate having a slippery outer layer surface and an exposed adhesive surface. In one embodiment of the present invention, the adhesive surface is overlaid with a thin film substrate adapted to form an inner layer of a flexible packaging laminate. The inner layer is a polymeric material having a higher vapor transmission rate than the outer layer. Preferably, the vapor transmission rate of the inner polymer layer is greater than 0.80 grams per 100 square inches per 24 hours at 70°F. The inner polymer layer illustratively includes polyethylene, polypropylene, open cell layers thereof, mixtures thereof, and block copolymers thereof. Upon sandwiching the adhesive between inner and outer layers, the resulting packaging laminate is processed to form a packaging unit. The permeability of the inner layer allows air trapped within a sealed packaging unit to come into fluid

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communication with the antioxidant contained within the cured adhesive layer. The reaction of oxygen with the antioxidant thereby retards the action between a product sealed within the packaging unit and oxygen.

